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Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

Summary record of the 349th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 20 March 2013, at 3 p.m.

Chair: Mr. Diallo ..... (Senegal)

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Special screening of the documentary *Arafat*

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The meeting was called to order at 3.15 p.m.

Special screening of the documentary *Arafat*

1. **The Chair** said that Yasser Arafat had established himself as the Palestinian people's undisputed leader, had made its future a top priority of the United Nations and had bequeathed on it an identity and inalienable rights. The Committee and the Permanent Observer Mission of the State of Palestine to the United Nations were sponsoring the screening of the first documentary made about his life and its historical context, entitled *Arafat*. The film was a reminder that the cause of an independent and peaceful Palestinian State with Jerusalem as its capital was more relevant than ever.

2. **Mr. Mansour** (Observer for Palestine) paid tribute to the makers of the film, which depicted the struggle of the Palestinian people at various historical moments.

3. **Ms. Baassiri** (writer and co-producer of the film *Arafat*) said that the film was a condensed version of a four-part television series first screened in November 2011. Because one of her main concerns in making it had been to capture the spirit of the time, it comprised interviews with Arafat's aides, archive footage and music. It was impossible to separate Arafat's life from the Palestinian cause or from regional conflicts and Cold War international rivalries. The screening was the first time the film had been shown in public.

4. *The film entitled* Arafat *was projected.*

The meeting rose at 5 p.m.